REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the official action dated June 28, 2007. Claims 1, 2, 4-12, and 14-44 were pending in the application. In the official action, claims 1, 2, 4-12, and 14-44 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1, 11, 19, 22, 27, 35, and 40 have been amended. Claims 1, 2, 4-12, and 14-44 thus remain for consideration.

Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

§102 and §103 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8-12, 14, 15, and 18-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Rhoads et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,522,769).

Claims 6, 7, 16, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rhoads in view of the alleged "Applicant's admitted prior art" (AAPA).

Claims 40-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rhoads in view of Kuroda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,633,723).

Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims (claims 1, 11, 19, 22, 27, 35, and 40) are patentable over Rhoads, AAPA, and Kuroda.

Applicant's invention as recited in the independent claims is directed toward a recording medium, recording and/or reproducing to/from a recording medium, and a copy control method for content data. Each of the claims recites that management information of a "strong remaining intensity" and management information of a "weak remaining intensity" is embedded into content data. Each of the claims further recites

that no substantial processing of the content data is performed between the embedding of the management information of a "strong remaining intensity" and the embedding of the management information of a "weak remaining intensity".

Neither Rhoads, AAPA, nor Kuroda discloses the embedding into content data of both management information of a strong remaining intensity and management information of a weak remaining intensity, wherein no substantial processing of the content data is performed between the embedding of the management information of a strong remaining intensity and the embedding of the management information of the weak remaining intensity. In particular, Applicant wishes to point out that Rhoads discloses adding a second watermark to content after such content has been copied.

Since neither Rhoads, AAPA, nor Kuroda discloses the embedding into content data of both management information of a strong remaining intensity and management information of a weak remaining intensity, wherein no substantial processing of the content data is performed between the embedding of the management information of a strong remaining intensity and the embedding of the management information of the weak remaining intensity, Applicant believes that claims 1, 11, 19, 22, 27, 35, and 40 are patentable over Rhoads, AAPA, and Kuroda - taken either alone or in combination - on at least this basis.

Further since dependent claims inherit the limitations of their respective base claims, Applicant submits that dependent claims 2, 4-10, 12, 14-18, 20, 21, 23-26, 28-34, 36-39, and 41-44 are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons discussed in connection with claims 1, 11, 19, 22, 27, 35, and 40.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance,

which action is earnestly solicited. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to telephone the undersigned at (908) 654-5000.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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